REMARKS

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claim 71 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention for not clearly defining the term "office" in the specification. The applicant respectfully traverses this rejection. The term "office" is indeed explicitly defined in the specification on page 3, first full paragraph. That paragraph reads: "It should also be understood that the terms "office" and "office environment" are used throughout this application to refer to any enclosed area in which mobile devices may be used, and the terms are not limited to buildings where business is conducted." The applicant respectfully submits that the term "office" means "any enclosed area in which mobile devices may be used." Therefore, the applicant respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 67-71 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Lee (U.S. Patent 6535493), in view of Magret et. al. (U.S. Patent 6804221). Claims 72-80 were rejected under 25 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Lee in view of Magret and further in view of Lazaridis et. al. (U.S. patent 621694).

Claim 67 has been amended to overcome the Examiner's rejections. Lee does not recite "a subscription server operating on the LAN, in communication with all of the local base stations, the subscription server configured to identify the local base stations covering one or more of the mobile devices, the subscription server enabling the local-area wireless communication system to locate mobile devices that are in communication with the local-area wireless communication system without requiring communication between the plurality of local base stations to locate the mobile devices."
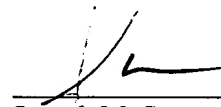
Lee does not disclose a subscription server as is disclosed in the current application. Instead, Lee discloses a complex series of communications between a number of access points in order for the access points to be aware of the location of various wireless devices active on the number of access points. This is done by a series of registration requests, whereby a mobile unit must register when it enters the area of a foreign agent. The foreign agent (foreign access point) then must send a message to the home agent (home access point) notifying the home agent of the mobile unit's new location, thereby creating a "care-of address" that the home agent can use to forward messages to the mobile unit. (*See Lee*, col. 9, lines 11-24). This creates an abundance of traffic as the mobile unit moves about the network. The current application simplifies the process and avoids all of this unnecessary traffic. When a base station receives a message targeted toward a mobile device that is no longer in the base station's area, the base station checks its cache to determine whether it knows the current location of the mobile unit. If it does not, it contacts a subscription server to update its cache with the location of the mobile unit. This is performed only when a message needs to be sent, even though the mobile unit may have moved into the vicinity of several different base stations since the last time it received a message.

Also, Marget does not disclose "each local base station being configured to maintain a routing cache based on communications received from other local base stations, the routing cache identifying which of the plurality of local base stations were last in contact with mobile devices from which the communications were initiated." Marget discloses both a base station router (BSR) and a base station (BS). The BSR is a "router connected to a set of bridges of base stations" (*See Marget*, col. 9, lines 15-16), much like any router. The base stations are the "end point of the wired network. It has an air interface. Several base stations may be linked to the same BSR." (*See Marget*, col. 9, lines 23-25). These base stations are merely wireless access points as are known in the art. The base stations referenced in the current application include memory and processing capability to direct messages to mobile units on the network no matter where there location.

Given the above amendments and argument, the Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 67, and claims 68-80, dependent therefrom are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is, therefore, respectfully requested to enter this Amendment and pass this case to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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